

Development Challenges, South-South Solutions: September 2011 Issue

Stories

1) Filipino Architect wants to Transform Slum with New Plan

A clash is occurring across the global South over the future of urban planning and the ever-growing slums of the world's megacities. This will be a decisive clash of visions: should cities flatten slums and relocate their residents, or work with slum dwellers, acknowledge the role they play in city economies and improve their lives with better dwellings?

As the world turned into a majority urban place in the 2000s, cities grew at a phenomenal rate. The cities of Africa and Asia are growing by a million people a week, according to some estimates. Megacities and sprawling slums will be the hallmarks of this new urban world, it seems. In sub-Saharan Africa, 72 percent of the population already lives in slum conditions.

The danger of building unsafe or makeshift homes can be seen in 2010's devastating earthquake in Haiti, where many buildings collapsed, killing thousands.

One of the Philippines' leading architects and urban planners, Felino A. Palafox Jr. of Palafox Associates (www.palafoxassociates.com), is passionate about re-making the slums in his country's capital, Manila. The city is prone to devastating and sometimes deadly flooding. Palafox believes the vulnerability of slum dwellings and poor urban planning are placing lives at risk.

"We can't wait for another tragedy," Palafox told the Philippine Daily Inquirer in 2010. "We have seen how an unprecedented volume of rainfall like what (storm) Ondoy had brought could prove too much for Metro Manila's river and drainage system. We have also seen what a massive earthquake could do to an unprepared city like Haiti."

"While there is nothing that we could do to control the destructive power of these natural phenomena, there are steps that we could take to limit the amount of damage."

If the rapid growth in urban populations is to be safe and sustainable, then new dwellings will need to be built that meet high standards of durability.

The UN Challenge of Slums report from 2003 (www.unhabitat.org/pmss/listItemDetails.aspx?publicationID=1156) broke with past orthodoxy that slums must be cleared, arguing that slums should be seen as positive economic forces, incubators for budding entrepreneurs that offer a gateway to better things for new migrants.

Muhammad Khadim of UN-Habitat summed up the new thinking:

"Ten years ago, we used to dream that cities would become slum-free," he said. But "the approach has changed. People see the positives. The approach now is not to clear them but to improve them gradually (and) regularise land tenure."

The arguments behind embracing slums come from the economic changes across developing countries since the 1970s. Growing informal economies combined with fewer social provisions and the shift to urban from rural communities have all contributed to the explosion in slums and informal housing.

Manila is a city of stark and startling contrasts: there are glitzy shopping malls and high-rise office buildings, but also large slums and hungry people begging and selling trinkets on the city's roads.

It's a place where the slum clearance-vs-renovation debate is hot and current. The Philippines is currently in the midst of a campaign to clear slums in Manila and move people back to the countryside.

"Many of our people are no longer interested in agriculture, so we need to give them incentives to go back," Cecilia Alba, head of the national Housing and Urban Development Co-ordinating Council, told the *New Statesman* magazine. "If we had to rehouse the slum-dwellers inside Manila in medium-rise housing, it would cost a third of the national budget."

Palafox has a different vision - rebuilding a slum community from top to bottom.

An architect, environmental planner, urban planner and development consultant, Palafox runs one of the top architecture firms in the Philippines, employing more than 100 staff and consultants.

Usually occupied with office buildings in the go-go new business centres of the Middle East and Asia, Palafox has turned his attention to Esterio de San Miguel, a Manila slum that is home to some 1,200 families, or 6,000 people.

Families are packed into tiny rooms in a labyrinthine slum complex beside a canal. The rooms are made of wood and floored with linoleum and have to be accessed through a narrow tunnel and tight connecting corridors.

Palafox's plan is to work with the residents and rebuild it in its current location. In place of makeshift shacks will come modular homes, 10 square metres in size with space for shops and bicycle parking.

The design has the homes extend above a walkway, imitating the way the original slum structures were built.

Palafox is applying innovative thinking to the problem: taking his design

direction from the dwellings slum residents build: "The slum-dwellers," he explained to the New Statesman, "are experts at live-work space design. They spontaneously do mixed-use! We just have to learn from them."

Re-housing the residents on site means they can continue to play their role in the city's economy, and do not have to make a long commute to jobs and opportunities.

Palafox also rebuts complaints about the cost of his plan, arguing the scale of corruption in the Philippines costs just as much.

"OK, the total cost of rehousing slum-dwellers in situ is 30 per cent of GDP (but) I calculate we lose about 30 per cent of the country's wealth through corruption. If we didn't have corruption, we wouldn't need to tolerate slums."

Another passionate advocate of working with slum dwellers is Father Norberto Carcellar from the Homeless People's Federation (<http://sdinet.org/countries/philippines.htm>).

"We have to recognize the value of slum-dwellers to the city," he said. "These are the ones who drive your car, clean your house and run your store. If these people were cleared from the city, the city would die. Slum-dwellers add social, political and economic value to the city."

Even in its current form, Estero de San Miguel is a vibrant place, with an Internet café and a volunteer police force.

A BBC report found it lively and economically viable because it has educational and communication technologies that improve living conditions. The residents make their living working as cheap labour for the city.

Oliver Baldera, a carpenter, lives with his wife and four children:

"We've been here more than 10 years," he told the New Statesman. "There's no choice.

"It's easier to get a job here and I can earn 400 pesos a day. I can send the kids to school and they eat three times a day - but it's not enough. I need more space."

LINKS:

1) More Urban, Less Poor: The first textbook to explore urban development and management and challenge the notion unplanned shanty towns without basic services are the inevitable consequence of urbanization. **Website:** www.earthscan.co.uk/?tabid=649

2) Slum Populations in the Developing World: See a breakdown of the urban/slum population in developing nations. **Website:** <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/5078654.stm>

3) Architecture for Humanity: An NGO to promote architectural and design

solutions to global, social and humanitarian crises. **Website:** <http://architectureforhumanity.org/>

5) Building and Social Housing Foundation: The Building and Social Housing Foundation (BSHF) is an independent research organisation that promotes sustainable development and innovation in housing through collaborative research and knowledge transfer. **Website:** www.bshf.org

6) NGO called Map Kibera began work on an ambitious project to digitally map Africa's largest slum, Kibera in Nairobi, Kenya. **Website:** www.mapkibera.org

7) ArrivalCity: The Final Migration and Our Next World by Doug Saunders. **Website:** www.arrivalcity.net

8) Slum TV: Based deep inside Nairobi's largest slum, Mathare, they have been seeking out the stories of hope where international media only see violence and gloom. **Website:** www.slum-tv.org

9) A Kenyan eco-village is helping slum dwellers to start new lives and increase their wealth. The community, Kaputei, is being built by former slum residents – some of whom used to beg to survive – and is providing new homes with electricity, running water and services like schools and parks. By building their own homes, with the help of affordable mortgage loans, the residents are able to make a big upgrade to their quality of life while acquiring real wealth. **Website:** www.jamiiibora.org

8) Cities for All shows how the world's poor are building ties across the global South. **Website:** <http://globalurbanist.com/2010/08/24/cities-for-all-shows-how-the-worlds-poor-are-building-ties-across-the-global-south.aspx>

2) Model City to Test the New Urbanism Concept in India

India's phenomenal economic growth rate - forecast to be 7.9 percent this year by the Asian Development Bank, after averaging 7.7 percent per year over the past decade - has been the force behind an expanding middle class population, now estimated at 50 million people (McKinsey). Forecasts see it swelling from 5 percent of the population to 40 percent by 2025.

India now boasts many fast-growing global companies and booming enterprise zones like the technology hub of Bangalore. But the country still comes in for heavy criticism of the way it has managed the growth of its cities. Poor planning and chaotic growth have left many cities with vast slum areas, congestion, poor hygiene and sanitation services, crumbling infrastructure and poor-quality transportation services. To more and more Indians it has become clear these factors are now serious impediments to economic growth and modernisation of the country and its economy.

With 30 percent of the population living in urban areas and cities contributing 60 percent of the country's GDP and 90 percent of government revenues (Wall Street Journal), city-dwellers' fate is critical to the functioning of the economy.

According to the 2001 Indian census, slums make up 25 percent of all housing, and 26 percent of urban households lack access to sanitation facilities.

And as the middle class grows and its members accumulate savings, their desire to be better housed will also grow. They will be on the hunt for new places to live to realise their dreams. Those who can satisfy this strong urge will be those who will also profit.

This is where the new city concept of Lavasa (www.lavasa.com) comes in. This new community sits nestled in picturesque mountains and features promenades, sidewalk cafes, and ice cream parlours, but none of the clichéd fixtures of today's Indian cities: rickshaws, noise and pollution, poor sanitation and over-crowding. It has apartment houses in mustard, terra cotta, ochre, olive and beige. It is also going to have a medical campus, luxury hotels, boarding schools, sports academies, a golf course, a space camp, animation and film studios, software-development companies, biotech labs and law and architectural companies. A thoroughly 'knowledge economy' mix that India's aspiring classes wish to see the country embrace for its future development.

The people behind Lavasa see it as a new model of governance and urban development for India in the 21st century.

Lavasa is located in Western Ghats, 200 kilometres southeast of Mumbai, India's financial and entertainment capital, and 65 kilometres west of Pune, a centre for software programming and computer animation.

Lavasa's colourful and detailed website boasts it as a "private hill city being developed by Lavasa Corporation Limited where people can live, work, learn and play in harmony with nature." It's billed as "an inclusive city, based on the principles of New Urbanism."

The master plan is to house more than 300,000 people divided in to five linked towns.

The first town, Dasve, will be completed in 2011. Its houses are selling well and are almost sold out, according to its developers.

Lavasa is the concept of Ajit Gulabchand, chairman of Hindustan Construction Company, an Indian company with extensive experience building bridges and dams.

The development is located in the remote hills along the Varasgaon Lake, a reservoir providing water to Pune. Lavasa Hill City covers "25,000 acres with 60 Kms of lakefront" according to its website. The land had originally been designated for holiday homes, but this seemed too small an aspiration.

Lavasa will be governed by a private corporation. It is also being planned according to the principles of New Urbanism (www.newurbanism.org) - a belief in cities built around walkability not cars, where business and residential sit side-by-side, with mixed income housing and lots of green space for parks.

The corporation will take responsibility for providing all major utilities: running

water, electricity, sewage treatment, garbage collection and fibre optic connections.

This thoroughly modern approach has startled prospective buyers of homes, puzzled there weren't water tanks on the roofs and septic tanks for each house: something they had come to expect with current Indian cities.

The Lavasa Corporation has hired an American city administrator, Scot Wrighton, to run the new city.

He told *The Atlantic* magazine that Lavasa offered him "a chance to build a new governance model for a country where governance at the municipal level does not work."

The project seeks to exploit a portion of Maharashtra state law that lets corporations assume many of the responsibilities normally provided by, or in the domain of, the state. These do not include police powers or the ability to raise taxes but take in pretty much everything else.

Lavasa has private security guards to watch over its residents and funds itself through home sales, renting, and business deals. The prices for apartments in the development range between US \$17,000 and US \$36,000. While cheap by Western standards, this is still expensive to middle class Indians.

The project has come in for criticism for being just for the wealthy and being a pipe dream in chaotic India.

In response to criticism, Gulabchand is introducing cheaper apartments targeting young professionals and starter homes that he claims will rent for US \$11 a month. This far lower monthly rent could make the development affordable for more people, including domestic servants and laborers.

Gulabchand admitted the plan was not without risks. "We're worried we'll still get slums," he said. "Do we have all the answers yet? No. It is still an experiment, okay?"

As for charges the development doesn't look much like the 'real' India, Gulabchand says: "Why should we look to the past? India is a young society."

But Gulabchand doesn't think India has the time to waste pondering these aesthetic questions: the country has a desperate need for better quality living conditions.

"We may not get a perfect Singapore-style model city," he told *The Atlantic*. "But this is a model for a more vibrant, inclusive, greener place that still has soul."

LINKS:

- 1) New documentary *Urbanized* gives a passionate over-view of the

challenges facing the rapidly urbanizing world around us. **Website:** <http://urbanizedfilm.com/>

3) **Pulque: Aztec Drink Ferments New Economy**

Reviving traditional foods and drinks can be an income-boosting source of new economic activity. Many cultures can benefit from looking again at their rich traditions to find new ways to increase enterprise. This can be difficult at first. Big global brands have many initial advantages: they are backed by wealthy and experienced international companies and can deploy aggressive marketing and distribution power to get products into the hands of consumers. The power of Coca Cola to reach all corners of the earth is legendary.

But the case of Mexican drink pulque shows how marrying the power of an ancient taste with a younger demographic can rejuvenate businesses. This is important because many emerging countries across the South have young populations - and yet unemployment is also high among these youthful populations. Engaging the youth market will be critical to the future prosperity and development of these countries.

Pulque is also playing a part in Mexico's tourism strategy: the state government in Tlaxcala (www.tlaxcala.gob.mx) has created a 'Pulque Route' to draw in tourists.

Having for decades lost ground to slickly marketed alternatives like beer and tequila, pulque drinking is being revived with the help of a new generation of Mexicans re-discovering a beverage that boasts origins reaching back to the Aztecs (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aztec>).

There is also another benefit to reviving ancient food and drink: alarm has been raised over the diminishing range of food products consumed by people around the world. Throughout the history of farming, around 7,000 species of plants have been domesticated. Yet everyday diets only draw on 30 percent of these plants, and even this number has been going down as more people consume mass-market foods (FAO).

Once-rich culinary traditions have wilted and left many people unsure what to do with formerly common vegetables and fruits, even if they can actually find them in markets.

One consequence has been poor nutrition resulting from the reduction in consumption of high-vitamin foods, leading to stunted mental and physical development across the global South.

Pulque (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pulque>) is made from the juice of maguey or agave (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Agave>), a spiky green plant. It has between three and four percent alcohol content. Unlike the well-known Mexican drink tequila, which is fermented and distilled to make a strong, clear alcoholic drink, pulque is a foamy and milky beverage that is fermented, not distilled.

Made from a sap harvested when the agave is mature, it appears in the Codex Borbonicus written by Aztec priests in the 1530s.

Advocates for the drink say it is high in Thiamine, Riboflavin, Niacin, Pantothenic Acid and packed with beneficial microbes for human digestion. It also has vitamins C, B-complex, D, E, amino acids and minerals such as iron and phosphorus.

Pulque had developed a bad reputation, with an image as a peasant drink lacking the class of tequila or beer. The stigma had built up over decades from its reputation as the favourite drink of alcoholic farmers, commonly depicted drinking pulque all day long.

Once pulque was available only at makeshift pulquerias: a few tables and chairs with farm animals roaming about. Portions were large, using gourds or, by the 1970s, plastic buckets. Some still sell the drink in this rough-and-ready fashion from containers hitched to donkeys.

Those behind the rebranding of the drink hope to move away from the former drinkers - largely poor, old and rural - to young urban drinkers. Pulque has taken on a "cool, retro" image tapping into a taste for connecting with Mexico's Aztec roots.

In Pulqueria Las Duelistas in Mexico City, the young crowd like the new taste. "It is cooler than beer and a lot cheaper than Tequila," Jaime Torres, a 22-year-old design student and computer tech for an advertising agency told the Washington Post. "It's old Mexico."

By 1886 a census found 817 pulquerias in Mexico City serving the residents of just 9,000 homes. By the 20th century, they had become so common that neighbourhoods would have a handful each. Now estimates place the number in Mexico City at between 60 and 100, with many closing when their owners die.

Las Duelistas is trying to buck that trend.

"This place has been in business for 92 years, and I have six as the owner, and I have totally changed the image of the pulqueria, a totally new concept, with different clientele," said proprietor Arturo Garrido. "Most of my clients are young, and it is my way to continue giving life to the pulque."

So, how have the pulquerias made themselves appealing to a new generation of drinkers? Music and new interior design have made the establishments more attractive to youth.

Pulque sells for 30 pesos, or about US \$2.50, a litre. The most popular version is called curado (cured) and is infused with other flavours like strawberry, guava and celery to add greater appeal to a younger demographic.

"My customers aren't old anymore. Now they're young people," said Nabor Martinez, the owner of another pulqueria, La Risa.

The drink is difficult to export because it keeps fermenting in the bottle or can. This makes it something special to Mexico, only enjoyed by a visit to the country.

Some, however, like Everado Gonzalez, director of the 2003 documentary "Pulque Song," about an old-school establishment, lament the loss of the old atmosphere.

"A pulqueria is not a cantina. It's not a bar," Gonzalez said. "It is a refuge, or was, for the lowest classes of society. Your drink is cheap. You are not sitting at a table, with good manners. You don't need a table. You sit on a bench, where you can do what you want, say what you want.

"It was a beautiful island of freedom."

LINKS:

1) Teh Botol Sosro: It is a drink of cool, black, sweetened tea with a hint of jasmine. Invented by the Indonesian family of Sosrodojos, Sosro was founded in central Java in the 1940s. **Website:** www.sosro.com

2) Just Food is a web portal packed with the latest news on the global food industry and packed with events and special briefings to fill entrepreneurs in on the difficult issues and constantly shifting market demands. **Website:** www.just-food.com

3) Small businesses looking to develop their brand can find plenty of free advice and resources here. **Website:** www.brandingstrategyinsider.com

4) Brandchannel: The world's only online exchange about branding, packed with resources, debates and contacts to help businesses intelligently build their brand. **Website:** www.brandchannel.com

4) Ghana: Oil-rich City Sparks Entrepreneurs and Debate

Commodity booms can seem like the answer to a poor nation's prayers, a way to fulfil all their development dreams and goals. The reality, however, is far more complex. More often than not, the discovery of resources sparks a mad scramble for profits and patronage, as politicians and politically connected elites carve out their slice of the new resource boom before anyone else.

The twin cities of Sekondi-Takoradi (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sekondi-Takoradi>) in the Western Region of Ghana are now experiencing an oil boom. Ghana's oil production went online in December 2010 and the government is hoping it will double the country's growth rate.

Large supplies of oil were found off the coast in 2007, transforming Takoradi from a sleepy, rundown port city into the hub for the oil boom.

Local man Peter Abitty told the BBC he was renting out an eight-bedroom house for US \$5,000 a month. The house overlooks the sea and comes with banana and coconut trees.

"Tenants that come here can take the coconuts for free! We don't charge anything," Abitty said.

He put the strong interest in the house down to a simple fact: "It's out there: oil, oil, oil."

People's hopes are being raised in Ghana's case because it has built a reputation as a better-governed country than other African petro states like Nigeria and Angola.

But others argue that price increases caused by the boom are destroying local businesses. A report on the Ghana Oil news website found popular local businesses suffering. One example it gave was the Unicorn Internet Café, an employer of local youth, which shut down in 2010 because of high rents.

It found businesses have shut down in the following sectors: timber, sawmilling, super markets, mobile phone shops, boutiques and trading shops. But it also found many new businesses opening up, including banks, insurance companies and hotels.

The challenge facing Ghana is to ensure oil brings a long-term change to a higher value business environment and economy, rather than just an unequal and temporary boom.

Another challenge is to connect the many youth leaving education in the city with the jobs and opportunities being created by the oil industry. The twin cities are a regional educational centre with a lot of technical colleges and secondary schools.

To counter these concerns, a Regional Coordinating Council is promising to place the growth of small and medium enterprises at the centre of regional development.

The dreams and promises for Takoradi are very ambitious. "In five years time, I see Takoradi becoming one of the modern cities of the world," Alfred Fafali Adagbedu, the owner of Seaweld Engineering (www.seaweldghana.com), a new local company set up to service the oil sector, told the BBC.

"I can imagine skyscrapers, six-lane highways and malls."

"The transport industry is going to improve, because workers on the rig are going to need to be transported. Agriculture is going to see a boom because all those people on the rig will need to be fed."

"Even market women are going to see more business, because a lot of workers are going to have very fat paychecks. Everyone in this city is going to gain in business."

How far Takoradi has to travel to come close to meeting these dreams and expectations can be seen in its current state. The railway station has a train with laundry hanging from it because it hasn't moved in years, reported the BBC. People are living in the sleeping car of the train.

But the typical signs of a boom are all visible: traffic jams, booked hotels, rising rents and prices, and it is already hurting people on fixed salaries.

Local authorities have plans to demolish rundown parts of the city and rebuild with modern office environments for the new businesses resulting from the oil economy.

An estimated US \$1 billion a year in revenue will go to the Ghanaian government and local authorities want 10 percent of this to be ring-fenced for regional development.

"Many resources are coming from the western region. From years back, gold is here, timber is here, diamonds are here," said Nana Kofi Abuna V, one of the few female chiefs in the area.

"But when they share the cake up there, they leave out the western region. This time, if there is oil and gas in the region we should benefit more than everybody else."

But Adagbedu at Seaweld Ghana believes Ghana will see real improvements.

"I'm very sure we will avoid the mistakes," he said. "Ghana is a democracy, everyone is watching, so there is going to be a lot of improvement here."

And to help in keeping these promises, the BBC will continue to return to Sekondi-Takoradi to track its changes and see how things improve.

LINKS:

1) BarCamp Takoradi: BarCamp is an international network of user-generated conferences (or unconferences). They are open, participatory workshop-events, the content of which is provided by participants. **Website:**

<http://twitter.com/#!/barcamptakoradi>

2) Ghana Ports and Harbours Authority: The Authority overlooks the Takoradi port. **Website:** www.ghanaports.gov.gh/GPHA/takoradi/index.html

3) Friends of the Nation (FON): The NGO serves as a catalyst towards increased action for sustainable natural resource management and health

environment in the Takoradi region. **Website:** www.fonghana.20m.com/aboutus1.htm

4) Takoradi City: A website packed with information and photos on the city. **Website:**

www.takoradicity.com/pages/sections.php?siteid=takoradicity&mid=39

Window on the World

Check out our website: www.southerninnovator.org



Our new magazine, Southern Innovator, has launched: the first issue's theme is mobile phones and information technology. Throughout 2011, we will be launching more media products building on the success of the Development Challenges, South-South Solutions e-newsletter: stay tuned for more developments. Please contact the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation if you would like a copy (copies) of the new magazine. E-mail: ssc.info@undp.org

Follow us on Twitter @SouthSouth1

Also check out our SouthSouth Expo: this year's Expo will be in Rome, Italy from 5 to 9 December 2011: www.southsouthexpo.org

Books

Living in the Endless City edited by Ricky Burdett and Deyan Sudjic, Publisher: Phaidon. The city is the subject of the 21st century. All over the world, populations are shifting towards urban centres. *Living in the Endless City* depicts an authoritative survey of cities of today and the prospects for our urban future of tomorrow. 36 contributors from across Europe, South America, China, Africa and the U.S. set the agenda for the city - detailing its successes as well as its failures. **Website:** <http://www.urban-age.net/publications/living-in-the-endless-city/>

Consumptionomics: Asia's Role in Reshaping Capitalism by Chandran Nair, Publisher: Infinite Ideas. **Website:** www.amazon.com

World 3.0: Global Prosperity and How to Achieve It by Pankaj Ghemawat, Publisher: Harvard Business School Press. **Website:** www.amazon.com

How the West Was Lost: Fifty Years of Economic Folly – And the Stark Choices Ahead by Dambisa Moyo, Publisher: Allen Lane. The new book from challenging thinker Moyo, it argues the West needs to start following China's economic model or face economic ruin. **Website:** www.amazon.com

The China Miracle: Development Strategy and Economic Reform by Justin Yifu Lin, Publisher: The Chinese University Press. **Website:** www.eurospanbookstore.com

Africa in the Global Economy by Richard E. Mshomba, Publisher: Lynne Rienner. **Website:** www.eurospanbookstore.com

The Recession Prevention Handbook: Eleven Case Studies, 1948-2007 by Norman Frumkin, Publisher: M. E. Sharpe. **Website:** www.eurospanbookstore.com

The Roller Coaster Economy: Financial Crises, Great Recession and the Public Option by Howard J. Sherman, Publisher: M. E. Sharpe. **Website:** www.eurospanbookstore.com

Global Slump: The Economics and Politics of Crisis and Resistance by David McNally, Publisher: PM Press. *Global Slump* analyzes the global financial meltdown as the first systemic crisis of the neoliberal stage of capitalism. It argues that – far from having ended – the crisis has ushered in a whole period of worldwide economic and political turbulence. In developing an account of the crisis as rooted in fundamental features of capitalism, *Global Slump* challenges the view that its source lies in financial deregulation. **Website:** https://secure.pmpress.org/index.php?l=product_detail&p=271

Aftershock: Reshaping the World Economy After the Crisis by Philippe Legrain, Publisher: Little, Brown. **Website:** <http://www.philippelegrain.com/aftershock/>

Creative Ecologies: Where Thinking is a Proper Job by John Howkins, Publisher: UQP. **Website:** <http://www.creativeeconomy.com/think.htm>

The Global Crisis: The Path to the World Afterwards by Frank Biancheri, Publisher: Anticipolis. **Website:** http://www.anticipolis.eu/en_index.php

The Age of Empathy: Nature's Lessons for a Kinder Society by Frans de Waal, Publisher: Crown. **Website:** www.amazon.com

Arrival City by Doug Saunders, Publisher: Pantheon. A third of humanity is on the move. History's largest migration is creating new urban spaces that are

this century's focal points of conflict and change — centres of febrile settlement that will reshape our cities and reconfigure our economies.

Website: <http://arrivalcity.net/>

China: And the End of Poverty in Africa – Towards Mutual Benefit? by Penny Davis, Publisher: Diakonia and the European Network on Debt and Development. **Website:**

http://www.eurodad.org/uploadedFiles/Whats_New/Reports/Kinarapport_A4.pdf

Globalization and Competition: Why Some Emergent Countries Succeed while Others Fall Behind by Luiz Carlos Bresser Pereira, Publisher: Cambridge University Press. **Website:**

http://www.networkideas.org/book/jan2010/bk12_GACL.htm

Tourism and Poverty Reduction: Pathways to Prosperity by Jonathan Mitchell and Caroline Ashley, Publisher: Earthscan. **Website:**
<http://www.earthscan.co.uk/?TabId=92842&v=497073>

State of the Field in Youth Enterprise, Employment, and Livelihoods Development Publisher: Making Cents International. **Website:**
<http://www.youthenterpriseconference.org>

Urban World: A New Chapter in Urban Development Publisher: UNHABITAT
Website: <http://www.scribd.com/doc/31244004/Urban-World-A-New-Chapter-in-Urban-Development>

Building Decent Societies: Rethinking the Role of Social Security in Development edited by Peter Townsend, Publisher: International Labour Office. **Website:** www.ilo.org/publins

World of Work Report 2010: From One Crisis to the Next? Publisher: International Labour Office. **Website:** www.ilo.org/publins

From the Great Recession to Labour Market Recovery: Issues, Evidence and Policy Options edited by Iyanatul Islam and Sher Verick, Publisher: International Labour Office. **Website:** www.ilo.org/publins

Papers and Reports

Illicit Financial Flows from the Least Developed Countries: 1990-2008 UNDP-Commissioned Report

Contact: Monique Perry Danziger

Email: mdanziger@gfip.org

Website: <http://www.financialtaskforce.org/2011/05/12/undp-commissioned-report-from-global-financial-integrity-%E2%80%9Cillicit-financial-flows-from-the-least-developed-countries-1990-2008%E2%80%9D-now-available/>

Information Economy Report 2010: ICTs, Enterprises and Poverty Alleviation Publisher: UNCTAD. **Website:**

<http://www.unctad.org/Templates/webflyer.asp?docid=13912&intItemID=2068&lang=1>

State of China's Cities: 2010/2011: Better City, Better Life Publisher: UNHABITAT. **Website:** <http://www.scribd.com/doc/39882697/State-of-China-s-Cities-Report-2010-2011>

Still our Common Interest: Commission for Africa Report 2010 Publisher: Commission for Africa **Website:** <http://www.commissionforafrica.info/2010-report>

World Economic Outlook Update: Restoring Confidence without Harming Recovery Publisher: IMF. **Website:** <http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/weo/2010/update/02/index.htm>

Trade and Development Report, 2010: Employment, Globalization and Development Publisher: UNCTAD. **Website:** <http://www.unctad.org/Templates/webflyer.asp?docid=13740&intItemID=2068&lang=1>

Empowering People and Transforming Society: The World Economic Forum's Technology Pioneers 2011 Publisher: World Economic Forum. **Website:** <http://www.scribd.com/doc/35953976/Technology-Pioneers-2011>

The Emerging Middle Class in Developing Countries Publisher: OECD. **Website:** <http://www.oecdilibrary.org/oecd/content/workingpaper/5kmmp8lncrns-en> (PDF - 2.09 mb)

The BRICSA Countries and Changing World Economic Power: Scenarios to 2050 by Manmohan Agarwal, Publisher: The Centre for International Governance Innovation. Working Paper: Shifting Global Power. Africa and Mexico has the potential to change the balance of economic power in the world. This paper analyzes this potential building on developments in these economies over the past four decades in the context of the evolution of the world economy. **Website:** http://www.cigionline.com/sites/default/files/Paper_39-web-1.pdf

The Implications of China's Ascendancy for Africa by Hany Besada, Publisher: The Centre for International Governance Innovation. Working Paper: Shifting Global Power. This paper examines the extent to which China's engagement with Africa has produced mutual benefits for both and whether Africa is reaping the necessary benefits required for poverty alleviation and economic development. **Website:** http://www.cigionline.com/sites/default/files/Paper_40-web.pdf

Europe-North Korea: Between Humanitarianism and Business? Edited by Myungkyu Park, Bernhard Seliger and Sung-Jo Park, Publisher: LIT. **Website:** www.gpic.nl/EU - North Korea book.pdf

Global Economic Decoupling Alive and Well Emerging economies decouple from the US, come closer to Europe. **Website:** <http://www.marketoracle.co.uk/Article23670.html>

The Global Financial Crisis and Africa's "Immiserizing Wealth" Research Brief, United Nations University, Number 1 2010. **Website:** http://www.unu.edu/publications/briefs/policy-briefs/2010/UNU_ResearchBrief_10-01.pdf

Where Western business sees 'risk', Chinese entrepreneurs see opportunity by Dr Jing Gu. Dr Gu and her China based team from the China-Africa Business Council (CABC) and the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS) have had direct access to private Chinese companies working in Africa, including 100 in-depth interviews with Chinese firms and business associations and officials in both China and Africa. **Website:** <http://www.ids.ac.uk/go/news/where-western-business-sees-risk-chinese-entrepreneurs-see-opportunity>

Can China Save Western Economies From Collapse? **Website:** <http://www.marketoracle.co.uk/Article19484.html>

China's economic invasion of Africa **Website:** <http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2011/feb/06/chinas-economic-invasion-of-africa>

Africa begins to make poverty history: US economists challenge conventional view that the continent is a basket case **Website:** <http://www.guardian.co.uk/business/2010/mar/03/africa-makes-poverty-history>

On the Web

Blogs and Websites

mDirectory: The mDirectory is the most comprehensive database of information on mobile tech for social change on the Web: case studies, mobile tools, research, and how-to guides. **Website:** <http://mobileactive.org/directory>

Global Development: Launched in September 2010, this new website from the Guardian newspaper will track progress on the MDGs, encourage debate on its blogs, offer a rich store of datasets from around the world, and feature monthly podcasts and resources for schools. **Website:** www.guardian.co.uk/global-development

Latameconomy Website Launches

Latameconomy.org is the latest evolution of the annual Latin American Economic Outlook report, essentially bringing its trusted, high quality content into the digital age. Its wide country coverage and methods of analysis are essential for anyone seeking to understand the economic, social and political developments of Latin American countries.

Website: <http://www.latameconomy.org/en/>

International Development Economics Associates (IDEAs)

International Development Economics Associates (IDEAs) is a pluralist network of progressive economists across the world, engaged in research, teaching and dissemination of critical analyses of economic policy and development.

Website: <http://www.networkideas.org/>

OECD: Tackling the economic crisis website

The global economic crisis is entering a new phase amid signs of a return to positive growth in many countries. But unemployment is likely to remain high and much still needs to be done to underpin a durable recovery. This website will track the recovery.

Website:

http://www.oecd.org/document/24/0,3343,en_2649_201185_41707672_1_1_1_100.html

The Global Urbanist: News and analysis of cities around the world: planning, governance, economy, communities, environment, international. **Website:** www.globalurbanist.com

ICT Update: A bimonthly printed bulletin, a web magazine, and an accompanying email newsletter that explores innovative uses of information technology in agriculture and rural development in African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries. **Website:**

<http://ictupdate.cta.int/en/Regulars/Perspectives/%28issue%29/56>

Youth-Inclusive Financial Services (YFS-Link) Program website: The first space for financial services providers (FSPs) and youth-service organizations (YSOs) to gather, learn and share about youth-inclusive financial services.

Website: www.yfslink.org

Triple Crisis Blog: Global Perspectives on Finance, Development and Environment **Website:** <http://triplecrisis.com/>

Full Disclosure: The Aid Transparency Blog: A Devex blog, written by members of the international community. **Website:**

<http://www.devex.com/en/blogs/full-disclosure>

Africa Portal: An online knowledge resource offering researchers and opinion leaders a forum to share their insights on Africa and publish their work on pressing areas of concern to policymakers and the public. It aims to fill the gap in accessibility to research and information on policy issues on the continent. **Website:** www.africaportal.org

African Economic Outlook: A unique online tool that puts rigorous economic data, information and research on Africa at your fingertips. A few clicks gives access to comprehensive analyses of African economies, placed in their social and political contexts. This is the only place where African countries are examined through a common analytical framework, allowing you to compare

economic prospects at the regional, sub-regional and country levels.

Website: www.africaneconomicoutlook.org/en

Africa Renewal: The *Africa Renewal* information programme, produced by the Africa Section of the United Nations Department of Public Information, provides up-to-date information and analysis of the major economic and development challenges facing Africa today. **Website:**

<http://www.un.org/ecosocdev/geninfo/afrec/>

Timbuktu Chronicles: A blog by Emeka Okafor

With “a view of Africa and Africans with a focus on entrepreneurship, innovation, technology, practical remedies and other self-sustaining activities.”

Website: <http://timbuktuchronicles.blogspot.com/>

AfriGadget: AfriGadget is a must-read for African invention junkies. They are always on the look out for ingenious innovation that is new or a repurposing of existing technology in a new way, interesting in the sense that the story captures the imagination of others, inspiring others to see solutions in uncommon ways, practical ideas that solve problems in a demonstrable way, and entrepreneurs who are inventing new products or solutions. **Website:** www.afrigadget.com/

Silicon Savanna: Mobile Phones Transform Africa **Website:**

<http://www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,2080702,00.html>

Interesting Blogger

Olunyi D. Ajao: An Internet entrepreneur & technology enthusiast with strong interests in web design and hosting, writing about mobile communications technologies, and blogging. Topics are aimed at web designers, SEOs, bloggers, Internet entrepreneurs and people with general interests in Ghana, Nigeria, Kenya, South Africa and the rest of Africa. **Website:** <http://www.davidajao.com/blog/>

Social Media

Africa Entrepreneurship Platform

This ground breaking initiative is created as a forum to showcase innovative ideas and businesses from Africa that have the ability to scale internationally, driving job creation and sustainable economic development between Africa and the Americas.

Website: www.sacca.biz

AfriGadget on Facebook: ‘Solving everyday problems with African ingenuity’: **Website:** <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=2402629579>

Start-up Funding

The SEED Initiative

Hosted by the UN Environment Programme's World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), the SEED Initiative is a global partnership for action on the Green Economy. The annual SEED Awards help to develop the most promising social and environmental start-ups in emerging economies and developing countries.

Website:

<http://unep.org/newscentre/Default.aspx?DocumentID=2647&ArticleID=8798&l=en>

Crowdfund: A South African-based venture fund for technology start-ups in Africa. **Website:** <http://www.crowdfunding.co.za/>

Global Social Benefit Incubator: A US \$20,000 Bottom of the Pyramid Scholarship

Offered by Santa Clara University's Global Social Benefit Incubator, it selects 15 to 20 enterprises from developing countries and provides an eight-month mentoring process. This ends with a 10-day process in Santa Clara, where entrepreneurs work with their mentors.

Website: www.socialedge.org

The Pioneers of Prosperity Grant and Award

This competition is a partnership between the OTF Group and the John F. Templeton Foundation of the United States, and promotes companies in East Africa by identifying local role models that act as examples of sustainable businesses in their country/region. It is open to businesses from Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Burundi and Rwanda.

Five pioneers will receive US \$50,000 to re-invest in their business. It is open to for-profit businesses that provide high wages to their workers and that operate in sustainable ways.

Website: <http://pioneersofprosperity.org/index.php>

Oxford Said Business School Youth Business Development Competition

Open to youth between 16 and 21 across the world, the competition is run by students at Oxford University to promote social enterprise. A prize fund of £2,000 in seed capital is up for grabs. It calls itself the 'world's first global youth development competition'.

Website: www.sbs.ox.ac.uk/oba/se/ybd

Echoing Green: Social Entrepreneurs Fund

Website: www.echoinggreen.org/

Commonwealth Teams up with Private Equity Firm to Deliver up to \$400 Million in Investment in Africa

Small and medium enterprises across Africa are set to benefit from a multimillion dollar investment fund set up by private equity firm Aureos Capital (<http://www.aureos.com/>) with the Commonwealth Secretariat's assistance. The Aureos Africa Fund, launched in November following feasibility and due diligence studies funded by the Secretariat, will provide long-term capital and support for promising and successful businesses across the continent.

Commonwealth Deputy Secretary-General Ransford Smith, speaking at the launch of the fund at the Marriot Hotel in London, UK, on 2 November 2009, hailed the fund's launch. He warned that investment in Africa was "critical" if recent development gains were not to be lost amid the current worldwide recession. "This fund has the potential to make a real contribution to Commonwealth countries in Africa, by helping ordinary businesses to reach their potential and boost much needed growth and jobs across the continent," he said.

Website:

<http://www.thecommonwealth.org/news/215560/021109aureoscapital.htm>

The Africa Land Fund

The fund has raised almost €2 billion from an American pension fund to invest in African agriculture. The Africa Land Fund, created by the UK-based hedge fund Emergent Asset Management, wants to raise a total of €3 billion and is canvassing a range of investors. It plans to invest in agricultural land and livestock, including African game, which will be sold on to private reserves and safari parks. The fund also plans to develop bio fuel crops on marginal land, saving prime agricultural acreage for crops to feed people.

Email: info@eaml.net

Tel: +44 (0) 1428 656 966

Fax: +44 (0) 1428 656 955

Challenge

InnoCentive (<http://www.innocentive.com/>) is a challenge to the world's inventors to find solutions to real scientific and technological problems affecting the poor and vulnerable. It is an open marketplace where anybody with a problem can post it, and rewards for effective solutions stretch up to US \$100,000. They use rigorous intellectual property protection so ideas are not stolen without credit being given to the inventor. **Website:** www.rockfound.org/about_us/news/2007/0720first_seeker.shtml

Video

Forum for the Future: Compelling animated videos exploring the hard choices of an urbanizing world and the need to promote sustainable development and environmental harmony. **Website:** <http://www.youtube.com/user/forumforthefuture96>

Events

2011

Have an event you would like the South-South community to know about? Then send details to developmentchallenges@googlemail.com.

September

2011 Global Youth Economic Opportunities Conference

Washington, DC, USA (7-9 September 2011)

This 5th anniversary conference will provide a learning platform for the world's leading funders, practitioners, technical assistance providers, policy makers, and academics working to increase and improve economic opportunities for young people. Join 400 professionals from over 60 countries to share lessons learned, promising practices, and innovative ideas through technical workshops, engaging plenary sessions, and interactive networking. The result? Higher-impact programming, breakthrough solutions, and proven approaches. This year's theme, **Breakthroughs**, reflects the focus on the innovative ideas, proven practices, and visionary insights that are taking this emerging field to new heights.

Website: <http://www.youtheconomicopportunities.org/>

Email: conference@makingcents.com.

B4E Climate Summit 2011

London, UK (12-13 September 2011)

The B4E Summit 2011, London (B4E London), is a two day international conference to be held in London on September 12 and 13, 2011 under the theme 'Innovation, growth and the clean industrial revolution' in which WBCSD is a partner and supporter.

Website: www.b4esummit.com

WTO Public Forum 2011

Geneva, Switzerland WTO HQ (19-21 September 2011)

The 2011 Public Forum will provide an opportunity for the public at large to identify the principal trade challenges at the global level that impact on the multilateral trading system and identify solutions to ensure the WTO effectively adapts and responds to our fast changing world.

Website: www.wto.org

Rethinking Development in an Age of Scarcity and Uncertainty

York, UK (19-22 September 2011)

New Values, Voices and Alliances for Increased Resilience. The EADI-DSA 2011 joint conference seeks to be one convening space to fundamentally *revisit and rethink the development paradigm(s) in all its dimensions in an era of plurality, uncertainty and change*. The EADI-DSA 2011 conference seeks to maximise the opportunity of working together and to revisit and rethink 'development', to generate new ideas, new narratives and new thinking whenever possible globally co-constructed with partners in global-South.

Website: <http://www.eadi.org/gc2011>

Francophone Africa Hackathon

Across Africa (24 September 2011)

Taking place on 24 September 2011, a 'hackathon' to develop mobile phone applications will take place for Francophone Africans across Africa.

Website: <http://www.mobilehackaf.com/>

October

Maker Faire Africa 2011

Cairo, Egypt (6-8 October 2011)

MFA 2011 continues to cultivate new and existing maker communities across Africa. As was the case in Accra ('09) and Nairobi ('10), MFA 2011 will present and spotlight the vibrant and endlessly creative individuals that have come to represent the spirit of 'making' throughout the continent. These innovators, artists and tinkerers will be exhibiting a fusion of the informal and formal; ideas, inventions, hacks and designs both low-tech & high-tech. From cuisine to machines, come see their re-imagining of products, exploration of novel materials, and original solutions for some of the continent's most important challenges and opportunities. Maker Faire Africa 2011 will be a celebratory showcase of unhindered experimentation and curiosity.

Website: <http://makerfaireafrica.com/2011/06/09/maker-faire-africa-2011-cairo/>

Green Economy and Sustainable Development: Bringing Back the Social Dimension – UNRISD Conference

Geneva, Switzerland (10-11 October 2011)

This UNRISD Conference will create a forum for analysis aimed at developing a conceptual and policy framework that will position social dimensions at the centre of green economy and sustainable development. Policy reports and other publications will inform the UNCSD 2012 (Rio+20) preparatory process and subsequent policy discussions. In addition to researchers from across Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, North America and Oceania, speakers include representatives of Cicero, IFAD, ILO, Oxfam International, The South Centre, UNEP, UNDP, UNRISD, WHO and the World Bank. Side events include an UNRISD Book Fair and the art exhibit "In the Bag: The Art and Politics of the Reusable Bag Movement".

Website: <http://www.unrisd.org/events/greeneconomy>

GES Business Leaders Summit 2011

Singapore (17-20 October 2011)

Global Entropolis @ Singapore 2011 is the foremost business leaders event in Asia on global trends, innovation and growth strategies.

Website: www.globalentropolis.com

2011 EABIS Colloquium “A new era of development: the changing role and responsibilities of business in developing countries”

Fountainebleau, France (26-27 October 2011)

The rise in "south-south" trade has challenged the hegemony of western norms in trade and business such as transparency, governance and ethics. And while more business is being done in developing countries, there is little agreement about the responsibilities of business in development. At the same time food, health, poverty and education issues as well as corruption and bribery in developing countries require urgent action.

Website: www.insead.edu/events/eabis

November

Sustainable Opportunities Summit

Denver, CO, USA (4-5 November 2011)

The sixth annual Sustainable Opportunities Summit, the largest business sustainability conference is designed for business (large and small), governmental and academic leaders and influencers who are interested in learning how organizations are realizing market opportunities and significant cost savings through strategic sustainability initiatives.

Website: www.sosummit.org

Social Singularity Summit

Amsterdam, Netherlands (11 November 2011)

A gathering of thinkers and entrepreneurs to explore the opportunities and visions of Social Singularity. The summit has been organized to further the understanding of how to speed up and use the newest technologies to make the world a better place.

Website: <http://www.nowmovement.org/detail/events>

10th Metropolis World Congress – Cities in Translation

Porto Alegre, Brazil (23 November to 25 November 2011)

10th Metropolis World Congress is a unique exchange and networking opportunity that gathers urban planners, government leaders, city managers, urban management experts, international NGOs, academics, and other important stakeholders from around the world. The Congress will revolve around the theme “Cities in Transition”. Cities are presently in transition toward new types of challenges concerning the environment, governance, sustainability, innovation, and collaboration, all of which are taking place on an everyday basis. Therefore Metropolis invites us all to consider our future as urban citizens. The event will also be a chance to learn first-hand about the groundbreaking public policies implemented by Porto Alegre, the Capital of Participatory Democracy.

Website: <http://portoalegrecongress2011.metropolis.org/>

International Green Awards

London, UK (24 November 2011)

Launched in 2006 to critical acclaim, the **INTERNATIONAL GREEN AWARDS™** were set up to recognize strategies that use creativity in an engaging and effective manner, leading to more sustainable outcomes. It is now an established event on the global sustainable business-calendar.

Website: www.greenawards.com

Fourth High Level Forum: The Path to Effective Development

Busan, South Korea (29 November to 1 December 2011)

Ministers and specialists will not only take stock of what has been advanced since 2008, but also set out a new framework for increasing the quality of aid in order to achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015. Developing countries have named their priorities for HLF-4 as: predictable aid; use of country systems; an end to policy conditionality; country-driven capacity development; mutual accountability and reduced transaction costs.

Website:

[http://www.oecd.org/document/12/0,3343,en_2649_3236398_46057868_1_1_1,00.html](http://www.oecd.org/document/12/0,3343,en_2649_3236398_46057868_1_1_1_1,00.html)

December

Global South-South Development Expo 2011

FAO Rome, Italy (5-9 December 2011)

The Global South-South Development Expo (GSSD Expo) is the FIRST EVER Expo solely from the South and for the South. It showcases successful Southern-grown development solutions (SDSs) to address the need to meet Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). It is designed as a concrete response to the strong commitment made by the Secretary-General and the UNDP Administrator to help the global South realize its shared aspirations for achieving sustainable and equitable development through the sharing and transfer of SDSs, with the support of the donor community and the multilateral system under innovative triangular and public-private partnership (PPP) arrangements. It also constitutes one of the Special Unit's three global and United Nations system-wide South-South support platforms.

Website: <http://www.southsouthexpo.org>

European Development Days 2011

Warsaw, Poland (15-16 December 2011)

The sixth edition of European Development Days brings together male and female politicians, parliamentarians, representatives of international institutions, local authorities, NGOs, business leaders, researchers, journalists, artists and students... all to share their knowledge and their experiences. At every level, participants, hosts, moderators, debaters, exhibitors, whether they're from the North or the South, can all take part, put forward their ideas, examine creative solutions and question responsibilities. The debates are in plenary sessions or in bilateral meetings, in workshops or in the framework of parallel events, in quiet lounges or before the press. The European Development Days represent an opportunity to make good use of the diversity of viewpoints and models operating in the world.

Website: <http://www.eudevdays.eu/#>

2012

Earth Summit 2012: Towards a World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2012

Rio, Brazil (TBC 2012)

The United Nations General Assembly agreed to a new Earth Summit in December. The Summit will be in 2012 and will be hosted by Brazil. The themes are the Green Economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, the institutional framework for sustainable development, emerging issues and a review of present commitments. This site will keep you abreast of all the developments and latest news.

Website: <http://www.earthsummit2012.org/>

Awards and Funding

World Summit Youth Award

The international contest for young people using the Internet and mobiles to take action on the UN Millennium Development Goals. **Website:** www.youthaward.org

Grand Challenges Canada: Request for proposals

Grand Challenges Canada is pleased to announce a new initiative in its Maternal, Neonatal and Child Health grand challenge. It's called Saving Brains. Its goal is to unlock potential in children and dramatically transform lives in the developing world.

The money to fund this program comes from the Development Innovation Fund. In Budget 2008, the Government of Canada committed \$225 million CAD over five years to the Development Innovation Fund, to support the best minds in the world in a collaborative search for solutions to global health challenges.

For the Request for Proposals: **Website:** http://www.grandchallenges.ca/wp-content/uploads/2011/05/Request_for_Proposals-Saving_Brains_EN.pdf

Zayed Future Energy Prize

The world is in desperate need of innovative solutions to create a new, sustainable energy future. No one knows who or where the next great energy solution will come from. Solutions and technologies that could change the world are being developed globally, and the \$2.2 million Zayed Future Energy Prize, managed by Masdar in Abu Dhabi, recognizes and rewards innovation, leadership, and long-term vision in renewable energy and sustainability.

Website: <http://www.zayedfutureenergyprize.com/>

Philips Liveable Cities Award

Philips is looking for individuals and community or non-government organizations and businesses with ideas for “simple solutions” that will improve people’s health and well-being in a city to enter the Philips Liveable Cities Award. To help translate these ideas into reality, three Award grants totalling €125,000 are on the line. One overall winning idea from any of the three categories outlined below will receive a grant of €75,000, while the two additional ideas will receive grants of €25,000.

Website: <http://www.because.philips.com/livable-cities-award/about-the-award>

Piramal Foundation in India

Has established a US \$25,000 prize for ideas that help advance full access to effective public health care in India. The Piramal Prize is a \$25,000 Social Entrepreneurship Competition focused on democratizing health care in India that seeks to encourage and support bold entrepreneurial ideas which can profoundly impact access to higher standards of health for India’s rural and marginalized urban communities. The award recognizes high-impact, scalable business models and innovative solutions that directly or indirectly address India’s health-care crisis.

Website: www.piramalprize.org

Special Award for South-South Transfer - winners announced!

UN-HABITAT, the Building and Social Housing Foundation (BSHF) and the UNDP Special Unit for South-South Cooperation are pleased to announce the winner of the Housing and Urban Development South-South Transfer Award, a special joint initiative which seeks to recognise housing and urban development practices that have been successfully transferred to other countries in the global South. The winner of the Housing and Urban Development South-South Transfer Award is **Un Techo Para mi País (A Roof for my Country)**, Chile, awarded for mobilising thousands of youth volunteers and transferring its innovative approach to 19 countries across Latin America.

The aim of the award is to identify, provide visibility, and honour those who have successfully shared their projects and approaches internationally, thereby increasing the impact of the initiative.

The winning practice receives US\$15,000 to further transfer the awarded practice to other communities in developing countries.

Website: www.southsouthexpo.org

South-South Experience Exchange Facility

Supported by Mexico, China, India, Denmark, Spain, The Netherlands, and the U.K. and now Colombia, the South-South Experience Exchange Facility is a multi donor trust fund that promotes the idea that developing countries can learn from the successes of other developing countries in overcoming similar challenges. In the past 12 months, the trust has given out 35 grants to countries for learning activities ranging from working with at risk youth in the Caribbean to outsourcing IT services in Africa.

Website: www.southsouthcases.info

African Writers Fund

Together with the Ford Foundation, the Fund supports the work of independent creative writers living on the continent. The Fund recognizes the vital role that poets and novelists play in Africa by anticipating and reflecting the cultural, economic and political forces that continuously shape and reshape societies.

Website:

http://www.trustafrika.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=91&Itemid=90&lang=fr

Joint NAM S&T Centre - ICCS Fellowship Programme

Centre for Science and Technology of the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries (NAM S&T Centre) and International Center for Chemical Sciences (ICCS), (H.E.J. Research Institute of Chemistry and Dr. Panjwani Centre for Molecular Medicine and Drug Research), University of Karachi, Karachi, Pakistan

[Click here for more information](#)

or contact:

namstct@vsnl.com,

namstct@bol.net.in,
apknam@gmail.com

US\$250,000 for Best Lab Design

AMD and Architecture for Humanity have announced a prize of \$250 000 for the best design for a computer lab that can be adapted and implemented in third-world countries.

The Open Architecture Prize is the largest prize in the field of architecture and is designed to be a multi-year program that will draw competition from design teams around the world.

Website: www.architectureforhumanity.org

PhD Plant Breeding Scholarships at the University of Ghana

The University of Ghana (www.ug.edu.gh) has been awarded a project support grant by the Alliance for a Green Revolution (www.agra-alliance.org) in Africa (a joint venture between the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Rockefeller Foundation, for the establishment of a West African Centre for Crop Improvement (WACCI). This is available to scientists working at NARIs, universities and international centres in West Africa. Women scientists are especially encouraged to apply for a fellowship under this programme.

Website: <http://www.acci.org.za/Default.asp?nav=Home&idno=10>

Genesis: India's Premier Social Entrepreneurship Competition

Is a social entrepreneurship competition aiming to bring together social entrepreneurs, students, NGOs, innovators, incubators, corporations and financiers and encourage them to come up with innovative ideas which are socially relevant and feasible.

Website: <http://genesis.iitm.ac.in/>

Training

Ongoing

Jobs and Careers

Weitzenegger's International Development Job Market: **Website:** <http://www.weitzenegger.de/new/jobmarket.php>

Global Knowledge Initiative

The Global Knowledge Initiative seeks to build global knowledge partnerships between individuals and institutions of higher education and research. It seeks to help partners access the global knowledge, technology, and human resources needed to sustain growth and achieve prosperity for all."

Website: www.globalknowledgeinitiative.org/

ExportHelp - Promoting and supporting access to the European market

The European Commission runs a database for the explicit support of market players in developing countries who want to bring their products to the EU market. The database gives an overview on the EU's preferential trade

regimes established for developing countries as well as lists all tariffs, taxes and other requirements for goods imported into the EU.

Website: <http://exporthelp.europa.eu>

Development Executive Group Devex Networking Website

Over 90,000 global experts can network and connect and learn about more than 47,000 registered projects. **Website:** www.devex.org

Website Offers Career Advice to Young Africans

Set up by the Commonwealth Secretariat, Africancareerguidance.com is aimed at providing career guidance to African youth and helping them to link with prospective employers. AfricaRecruit is a human resources organisation that provides skills training for African professionals in the Diaspora and on the continent. The website has an inbuilt email subscriber list for all its users and offers a searchable database of career profiles for job seekers and prospective employers. It also offers skills and interest assessments and advice on CV and résumé preparation. It provides tips about interviewing techniques, as well as information on internship and volunteer opportunities, and entrepreneurial skills.

Website: www.africacareerguidance.com

African Diaspora Skills Database

This database was compiled to provide an overview of qualified African Diaspora professionals with varied areas of expertise and experience. The African Diaspora contributes substantially to the social, economic and political development of Africa, and this database is set up to further mobilize this considerable potential.

Website: www.diaspora-centre.org/NEWSLETTER/Database

Aid Workers Network (AWN)

Aid Workers Network (AWN) is an online platform for aid, relief and development workers to ask and answer questions of each other, and to exchange resources and information. AWN is registered in the United Kingdom as a charity. You will find discussions about a range of questions and issues on the AWN forum from aid, relief and development workers all over the world and representing a variety of fields, with new threads or responses posted daily. The forum is a great way to get in contact with other aid and development workers in your geographic area or working in a similar area of work.

Website: www.aidworkers.net

Bizzlounge

Bizzlounge is where people committed to ethical behaviour meet, who want to establish and maintain business contacts in an exclusive and relaxed environment.

Website:

<http://bizzlounge.com>

Business Action for Africa

Business Action for Africa is a network of businesses and business organisations working collectively to accelerate growth and poverty reduction in Africa.

Website: <http://businessactionforafrica.blogspot.com>

Business Fights Poverty

Business Fights Poverty is a professional network for all those passionate about fighting world poverty through the power of good business.

Website: <http://businessfightspoverty.ning.com>

Business in Development Network (BiD)

The BiD Network Foundation runs the BiD Challenge to contribute to sustainable economic development by stimulating entrepreneurship in developing countries.

Website: www.bidnetwork.org

Zunia

By Development Exchange, it offers news, publications and networking opportunities with the world's development community.

Website: www.zunia.org

Catalogue of Poverty Networks

UNDP is organizing an online catalogue of Poverty Networks as a means to facilitate access to knowledge and sharing this to a wider audience in 189 countries. Poverty Networks are web-based platforms that provide space for sharing and disseminating development-related information and initiatives. Below you will find information on IPC's collaborating networks, which help foster dialogue between researchers, policymakers, civil society and multilateral organisations.

Website: www.undp-povertycentre.org/povnet.do

Connections for Development (CfD)

CfD is a UK, Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) led, membership based organisation committed to ensuring that UK BME communities, and the organisations they are involved in, are supported in the process of shaping and delivering policy and projects that affect their countries of origin or interest – collectively "our world".

Website: www.cfdnetwork.co.uk

Development Crossing

Development Crossing was set up in 2006 by a small group of friends with diverse backgrounds ranging from business consulting to international development. In a world where the environment, corporate responsibility, and sustainable development are becoming increasingly intertwined, our goal was to create a site where individuals that shared our passion could keep up-to-date with relevant happenings in the world and connect with like-minded individuals. The idea behind Development Crossing is to provide a social network that brings together people from a variety of sectors, countries and

professions to discuss corporate social responsibility and sustainable development.

Website: www.developmentcrossing.com

DevelopmentAid.org

The one-stop-information-shop for the developmental sector, DevelopmentAid.org is a membership organization that brings together information for developmental professionals, NGOs, consultancy firms and donors.

Website: www.developmentaid.org

dgCommunities on the Development Gateway (now Zunia.org)

dgCommunities, a free online service by the Development Gateway Foundation is devoted to knowledge-sharing and collaboration for people working to reduce poverty in the developing world.

Website: <http://topics.developmentgateway.org>

Diaspora African Forum

This Forum exists "to invite and encourage the full participation of Africans in the Diaspora in the building of the African Union, in its capacity as an important part of the Continent". We will provide the vital linkage for Diaspora Africans to become involved in Africa's development as well as reap the fruits of African unity.

Website: www.diasporafricanforum.org

Business Planet: a new data map on Entrepreneurship

Business Planet, an interactive Google map, now includes data on new business creation around the world. Measures of entrepreneurial activity are based on the number of total and newly registered corporations. Click on color markers to learn more about each country.

Website: <http://rru.worldbank.org/businessplanet/default.aspx?pid=8>

- [Africa Recruit Job Compendium](#)
- [Africa Union](#)
- [CARE](#)
- [Christian Children's Fund](#)
- [ECOWAS](#)
- [Find a Job in Africa](#)
- [International Crisis Group](#)
- [International Medical Corps](#)
- [International Rescue Committee](#)
- [Internews](#)
- [IREX](#)
- [Oxfam](#)
- [Relief Web Job Compendium \(UN OCHA\) \(1\)](#)
- [Relief Web Job Compendium \(UN OCHA\) \(2\)](#)
- [Save the Children](#)
- [The Development Executive Group job compendium](#)
- [Trust Africa](#)
- [UN Jobs](#)
- [UNDP](#)
- [UNESCO](#)
- [UNICEF](#)
- [World Bank](#)

- Organization for International Migration
- World Wildlife Fund (Cameroon)